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COUNTRY Germany (Soviet Zone)

REPORT NO.

25X1A

TOPIC Erfurt-Bindersleben Airfield TVILNEDIAN00

EVALUATION ☐ 25X1X
(except as stated)

PLACE OBTAINED

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DATE OF CONTENT 27 October to 4 November 1950

DATE OBTAINED

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DATE PREPARED

27 November 1950

REFERENCES

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PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

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SOURCE

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1. On 27 October 1950, the Erfurt-Bindersleben (M 51/J 26) airfield was occupied by a unit of Soviet single-engine aircraft with in-line engines. These planes had a weapon projecting from their cockpits to the rear. ☐ 25X1

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2. The unit was still at the field on 17 October. Four fuel containers about 6 meters long and 2½ meters in diameter were on the southern edge of the field. (2) There was intensive flying, mainly in formations of up to seven planes. A truck with a boxlike superstructure was repeatedly seen at the field during flying activity. On top of the superstructure was a device which looked like a searchlight and rotated occasionally. Most of the aircraft crews wore decorations.

3. The field has been surveyed recently. (3) Laborers said that the surveying officials came from Saalfeld (M 51/J 53). The farmers whose land bordered on the airfield were advised not to farm their fields since confiscation was expected soon. Gravel and sand arrived recently.

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4. Between 10 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. on 17 October, the field was occupied by about 35 two-seater, single-engine monoplanes with in-line engines, and two U-2 biplanes. (1) The single-engine aircraft were similar to the IL-2 type. ☐ 25X1

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There was intensive flying. Ground attack aircraft fired against ground targets southwest of Bindersleben for about 45 minutes.

5. From 200 to 250 soldiers were stationed at the field. No quarters in Bindersleben were confiscated. Local residents said that most of the soldiers were picked up by busses and trucks in the evening and hauled to the Leimar-Mohra (M 51/J 46) barracks. The field has allegedly been reoccupied since 28 September.

6. ☐ 25X1
bus and four radio or command trucks were at the field. White ground signals were often fired from the immediate vicinity of the flight control station. Six large fuel containers, five tank trucks, ☐ 25X1B
☐ and a truck with a mounted searchlight, were seen in the fuel dump on the western edge of the field. (2)

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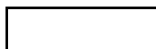
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CONFIDENTIALChange in Class: ☐☐ Reassigned

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DATE: 11/20/52

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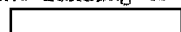
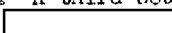
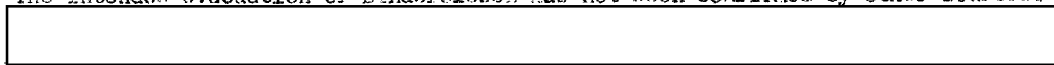
7. There were no obstacle or boundary lights. Ten Germans were surveying near the single-track railroad siding on the western edge of the field. (3) Local residents said that the field was to be extended toward the west and north-west to twice its former size and that the entire village of Bindersleben was to be evacuated for this. (4)

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9. On 1 November, no Soviet unit was stationed at the field. The unit previously seen there had left on 26 October. (6) Only one civilian sentry was present.

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 Comments.

- (1) On 28 September 1950 another source observed the landing of the single-engine planes, ground attack aircraft, at the field. . A third source confirmed the occupation of the field by a ground attack unit. . It is believed that the ground attack regiment from Dobberitz was temporarily transferred to Erfurt. 25X1
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- (2) The information on the presence of fuel containers in paragraph 2 is confirmed in paragraph 6 by another source. The containers seem to have arrived in Erfurt-Bindersleben recently and are possibly to be installed there.
- (3) The information on surveying work, contained in paragraph 3, is confirmed in paragraph 7 by another source. It is possible that the field is to be extended.
- (4) The intended evacuation of Bindersleben has not been confirmed by other sources. 25X1C
- (5) 
- (6) The information on the transfer of the ground attack regiment, though unconfirmed, is believed possible since another source has not observed ground attack regiments in Erfurt recently.

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